

**Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club**

The OSCILLATOR

NOVEMBER 2008

Issue 2008:11
Our 30th Anniversary Year

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone. An amateur radio license is not required.

2009 Board Election Opens in November

Each year in November we elect our four officers and a number of trustees. This year, we will elect members to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In addition, two positions as Trustee are up for election. Officers serve for one year and may be re-elected. Trustees serve two-year terms.

Our club uses an Election Committee to solicit interest in standing for election by members. Any number of members may stand for election in any position. The Election Committee reports its proposed candidate slate at the November Members Meeting. Additional nominations are solicited from the floor at that meeting. Ballots are prepared and mailed to members with return due by 6:00 pm on the night of the December Meeting (December 8th). At the time The OSCILLATOR was prepared, the following persons were believed to have agreed to stand for the office shown:

President

Robert Crocker WN7O

Pat Roberson N7PAT

Vice President

None

Secretary

Jennifer Roberson K7JLR

Treasurer

Alvin Carlson KB7VHI

Trustee (Vote For Two)

Joel Simmons AD7IS

Wes Allen K7WWG

OUR CLUB MEETING

**Wednesday,
November 12th**

Our November 12th Club Meeting will be held at The Peppermill Restaurant, Beaverton. We meet at 7:00 pm. Come at 6:00 pm and order off The Peppermill menu.

Tom Apel K5TRA will present a program on his development of a 900 MHz Repeater System in the area. He will show how the system is tied to other 900 MHz machines and to repeaters on other bands.

Check out our web site: www.otvarc.org for information on our program this month. Family members and friends are welcome to come with you. Guests are always welcome and an amateur radio license is not required.

TRAVELERS' Thanksgiving Potluck

The TRAVELERS' November Campout will be held at their traditional site, Wandering Spirit RV Park in Grand Ronde [28800 Salmon River Hwy — Oregon Highway 18], November 14 — 16, 2008. Some members of the group will be on site five days earlier, but if you plan to attend, you need to check in with Geno Buell KA7KBH at 503.614.0563 or make your reservation as soon as possible with the park, 503.879.5700 (FAX: 503.879.5171).

Each year, The TRAVELERS' are inviting OTVARC members to join them for the annual Saturday night Potluck Dinner. The group provides turkey and ham (with gravy) and participants are invited to bring salads, vegetables, and dessert. Again, let your plans be known to Geno.

The Wandering Spirit Park provides a convenience bus to the Casino. Friday evening the group will gather for a community dinner there.

Questions? Give Geno Buell a call!

CALL FOR NEIGHBORHOOD RADIO HELP

Where will you be when an emergency happens in your neighborhood? You could be providing vital communication assistance to your neighbors. It isn't often you can help so much by staying home. This is one of those opportunities.

The Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) of Washington County are looking for 2-meter amateur radio operators to help them in their neighborhoods during an emergency response. The CERT teams are made up of civilians trained to perform triage, search/rescue, and other organized responses in their neighborhoods. CERT exists because in many emergencies, particularly regional disasters, emergency services may be delayed by hours, days or weeks. They are trained to stay alive during an emergency and to help their neighbors do the same.

Effective communications are critical between teams and back to the Emergency Operations Centers. Willing amateurs will receive basic training in CERT procedures and radio protocols. When needed, the CERT teams will call on them to exchange radio traffic for them. If willing, an operator could travel with team members as they carry out their neighborhood assignments.

If you are interested or want to know more, contact David Bennett N7DPO at N7DPO@arrl.net or by phone at 503-642-2645. If you have an ARES assignment, keep that as your priority and let me know. To be excluded from further contacts, send an email to N7DPO@arrl.net with 'NOT ME' on the subject line.

David N7DPO

WAS WATCH

Our Club Station W7OTV has been active in a variety of settings this last year. Currently we need Arkansas, New Jersey, Florida, Maine and North Dakota for WAS with W7OTV.

WAS WATCH

VERIFIED CONTACTS	45
NEED	5

FIELD DAY NUMBERS RELEASED

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club topped a field of four Class 3A clubs in Oregon Section for 2008 Field Day with a score of 3,810. The score placed OTVARC number two in Northwestern Division behind Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club in Western Washington with 6,274.

In Oregon Section, the runner up submission came from Skyline Tower Amateur Radio Club with 1,692. OTVARC's entry showed the highest number of participants of any in Oregon Section, 86, and placed second in Northwestern Division (Idaho, Western Washington, Eastern Washington, and Oregon Sections) behind Snohomish County Hams Club with 93.

In addition to OTVARC and Skyline Tower Amateur Radio Club, Rogue Valley Amateur Radio Club, and Grande Ronde Radio Amateurs Association submitted logs in Oregon Section Class 3A and there were thirteen club submissions in Northwestern Division in this Class out of 157 total Division entries.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT
ADDRESS, PHONE, AND EMAIL?

LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday, November 15th - 5:30 pm

Thanksgiving Potluck
With Travelers' RV Group

Wandering Spirit RV Park
Grand Ronde Oregon

Geno Buell KA7KBH
503.614.0563

Information?
Linda KC7YTD
503.246.8879

Ethics And Operating Procedures for Radio Amateurs

Have you ever wondered about things you hear on the air? Why things are said or done a certain way? I think we all have, and especially as beginning hams or when learning a new operating mode it can be confusing to sort out the good from the not-so-good practices. With time and experience, most of us learn and improve.

Here's a shortcut. Well-known DX'ers and contesters John Devoldere, ON4UN, and Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW, have written up an informative set of guidelines and examples that teach without preaching, and earned the endorsement of the IARU for their effort. Even old timers will learn something from this 67-page article. There's something for everyone, whether your interest is phone, CW, digital or image. You can find it by searching arrrl.org for ethics and operating procedures, or going directly to the article at:

<http://www.arrrl.org/awards/dxcc/Eth-operating-ENarrrl-SITE-1jul2008.pdf>

73

Carl WS7L


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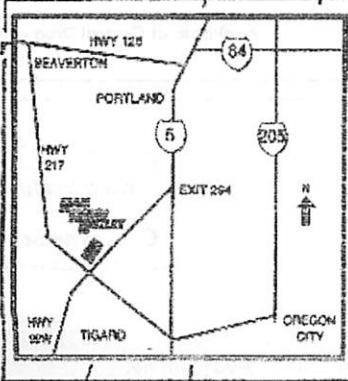
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WHY NOT QRP IF YOU CAN QRO

QRP radios, like those who operate them, come in many shapes and sizes. From a homebrew rig tacked to a strip of pc board operating at flea power to high performance all-band equipment, the versatility of these "pint sized rigs with attitude" just might surprise you. A complete portable setup with radio, antenna and power supply can weigh in at only a few pounds making it an ideal go anywhere HF station.

Is it challenging? Patience, skill and a bit of luck are the virtues of most QRP operators. Care in choosing an operating position that is clear of obstructions and getting the antenna as high as possible will greatly improve performance and success.

Is it fun? Imagine yourself soaking in a hot tub at Sun River, lounging in the comfort of your own backyard or even scaling the heights of Mt. Hood while making contacts with local hams as well as amateurs from around the world. All of these things are possible with QRP gear.

Does it really work? I managed to earn first place QRP class for Oregon in the 2007 November CW Sweepstakes contest.

Is it difficult? Transporting and setting up the equipment or operating from home is simple and easy. But when the band refuses to cooperate or the antenna is marginal, it can become just plain work to make just a few contacts.

If you like building and experimenting with equipment, QRP is a great way to do that. If you have a competitive side, QRP contesting will add to the challenge.

Try operating one of these little rigs; you just might be surprised at how much attitude they actually have.

Karl Anderson NM7N

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS**14 February 2009****HAMFAIR****Salem Repeater Association****Polk County Fairgrounds****Rickreall, Oregon****Talk-In: 146.86(-) (PL 186.2)****Don Brusch, K7UN****PO Box 5130****Salem, OR 97304-0130****Phone: 503-371-8070****k7un@arri.net****http://www.w7sra.com****7 March 2009****Electronics Show****Mike and Key ARC****West. Washington Fairgrounds****Pavilion Exhibition Hall****Puyallup, Washington****Michael Dinkelman N7WA****22222 148th Avenue SE****Kent, WA 98042****253-631-3756****mwdink@eskimo.com****www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm****5 - 7 June 2009****SEA-PAC****NW DIV. ARRL CONVENTION****Seaside Convention Center****Seaside Oregon****www.seapac.org****Happy November Birthday**

3 Ardyce Moore	AA7SW	16 Geoffrey Bunza	AD7JP
5 Gerald Davis	KJ7OM	19 Steve Johnson	N7VIC
6 Patrick Colton	KC7TOA	20 Dave Haupt	W8NF
7 Byron Windhorst	KD7NWV	23 Naomi Ballard	KD7JZW
8 Art Albin	W7GWR	26 Andy Ziemann	KE7AUB
8 Paul Schaff	W7BBG	26 Chris Arnesen	KU7PDX
8 John Core	KX7YT	27 Mary Berg	N7TRW
11 Kathy George	KC7USE	28 Linda Sutton	KC7YTD
16 James Boyd	K7MKN		

Have we missed your birthday?

Likely we do not have your correct date in our database.

Send updates and corrections to ot-varc@gmail.com



Karl Anderson NM 7N
Broker

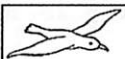
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karlanderson@meadowsgroup.com
www.meadowsgroup.com

12655 SW North Dakota Street
Tigard, Oregon 97223

Your business advertising in *THE OSCILLATOR* is seen each month. We have more than 190 members who read *THE OSCILLATOR*.

To include your "Business Card" ad (\$48.00 annually) or "Display" - HRO size ad (\$60.00 annually), contact **Maureen O'Rourke** at 503.591.9641. There is currently limited space available.

**J. Steven Sanders****Certified General Appraiser****Sanders Appraisal, PC****503-320-4100****jss10@verizon.net****Orencia Station, Hillsboro, OR 97124****Fax: 503-547-8200**

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HOLIDAY SOCIAL DECEMBER 10th

The Annual Holiday Social will be held on our regular December 10th meeting date. JD Fort K7JDF is serving as Coordinator for the Holiday Social. The event will be a Holiday Reception with heavy hors d'erves and will be held at the Peppermill Restaurant.

JD will announce cost and food arrangements at our upcoming meeting November 12th. The fee will include food and two tickets in the drawing for the "big prize."

A brief meeting to report election results will be held, otherwise we'll just "party."

HAMS FIX "DITTERS" ON 40 METERS

Recently, hams in North Carolina and Ohio worked together with Official Observers and the FCC to solve a case of "the ditters." The FCC HF DF station located the source of the signal in the area of Westerville, north of Columbus, Ohio. Once identification of the general area of search, local amateurs worked with Ohio Section Official Observer Coordinator Rick Swain KK8O to help identify the station involved.

Once the general location had been pinpointed, Skolaut called on ARRL Ohio Section Official Observer Coordinator Rick Swain, KK8O and Assistant Section Manager Bill Carpenter AA8EY for assistance. When Swain arrived in Westerville, he had a list of the names and addresses of 172 licensees in the area, as well as a general idea of where the signal should be, based on the data from the FCC's HFDFing station. He had a HF radio, an all-band screwdriver antenna, a GPS receiver and a VHF radio for information and directions.

When the signal appeared to be coming from a specific address, where a ham was licensed, the searchers attempted contact and with the help of a neighbor located the ham at work. The ham told the neighbor how to get in the house and where they would find the transmitter.



TUALATIN VALLEY CONTESTERS

The Tualatin Valley Contesters, a contest club closely related to OTVARC, entered the CQ World Wide Contest October 24 — 26. Their outing was a huge success. TV Contesters definitely moved from "Little Pistol" status in this contest. They may not be a "big Gun" group yet, but many hams now know they're out there!

Statistics from this outing show:

* Total Contacts	354
* Total QSO points	887
* Total Multipliers	207
* Total Score	183,609

The total score compares with the 2007 score of 77,000 +. By band, the results were:

160 Meters	9 contacts/4 countries /5 multipliers
80 Meters	53 contacts/16 countries /11 mult
40 meters	41 contacts/20 countries/17 mults
20 meters	184 contacts/58 countries /24 mults
15 meters	67 contacts/35 countries/17 mults

The sun gave us zero sunspot help!

TVC worked a total of 75 countries including the USA. Comparing the 2008 list to their confirmed QSL card list, TV Contesters made contact with 30 countries needed toward the DXCC award. TVC has a total of 56 confirmed countries (QSL card in hand) .

"We went in, found the transmitter in operation and turned it off," Swain said. "I noticed the ham had a large cat lounging near the transmitter and assumed the cat could have leaned up against the keyer paddle and started the transmitter. No other explanation could be possible without the owner hearing the transmit relay clicking."

When Swain and Carpenter left the house, they listened to the receiver and discovered the signal had disappeared.

Excepted from THE ARRL LETTER

THE
BARREL



Notes from president, Robert WN7O may be found online at the club website:
www.otvarc.org/president/index.html

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION
SEASIDE CONVENTION CENTER
Seaside Oregon
June 5 - 7, 2009
www.seapac.org

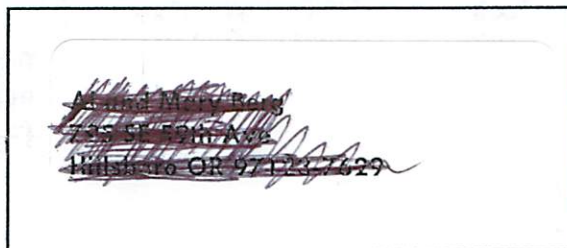


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Editor: Everett W6ABM w6abm@arrl.net



CLUB MEETING
NOVEMBER 12TH